7 Castle Road, Thornton Dale, Pickering, YO18 TR

8th July 2010

Mr M. Convery, Senior Development Officer, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AH

Dear Mr Convery,

<u>Planning Application NY/2010/0159/ENV</u> Ryedale Gas Project — Moorland Energy Limited

I wish to protest at the location of the proposed site for the above on the following grounds:

- 1. This development is completely out of character with the area.
- 2. Pollution. Light, noise, smell and visual impact will intrude on an idyllic rural setting that, at the moment, brings great pleasure to visitors and residents alike. There is no way a railway embankment is going to hide the plant; Thornton Dale. Wilton and the Wolds all look down on it. This is also an area renowned for its lack of light pollution; the site with have lights shining all the time.
- 3. Tourism is our main industry. People come from industrial areas to enjoy the tranquillity of the countryside they do not want to look out of their accommodation and see a Gas Plant. The log cabins at Easthill Farm look straight down to the proposed site.

The site of the well on Ebberston Moor has been down very sympathetically. I only came across it by accident. If Pickering and Knapton really are not practical, and I am not convinced of this, then surely a plant tucked away by the well is the obvious answer. There must have been some plans in the air at the time the site for the well was passed, with regard to the processing of the gas. Whilst I agree it is not the best thing in a National Park, permission was given to drill there, so how can the processing site be refused?

I hope you will hesitate before sending Thornton Dale down the industrial road; it really is one of the prettiest villages in Yorkshire.

Yours sincerely,

S AM SOID NAWMAN

Wendy Trousdale

From:

NYM Contact [web-server@northyorkmoors-npa.gov.uk]

Sent:

12 October 2010 09:38 Development Control

To: Subject:

North York Moors Feedback

Planning Consultation Response Form

If you wish to make a comment on an application it must be in writing and will become a matter of public record available for inspection. The Authority can therefore not accept comments marked confidential as valid objections and any such documents will be returned to you.

NYMNPA

1 5 001 5010

* Please fill in as many of these fields as you know. Thank you.

Application Reference No:: NYM/2010/0262/EIA Your Email Address::

Your Telephone No::

Your Address:: Orchard House

South Lane Thornton Dale N Yorks

Y018 7QU

Your Name:: Jon Bates

Are you objecting to the proposal?: Yes

Your comments on The Proposal:: I am commenting on the additional information submitted by

the company on 30/09/2010.

Despite all the prvious assurances about the asafety of the processing plant, the company now admit that safety is one of the reasons why the industrial estate in Outgang Road pickering is not deemed an option along with perceived concerns about operational noise and air quality (20100262ETA Alternative sites refers).

With regards to environmental impact, there own report (20100262ETA Informal comments RDC), now acknowledges that there are protected species present in the immediate vicinity of the hurrel lane site that will be affected by the proposed development (great crested newts, barn owls).

With regard to future gas supplies, the supporting document makes no reference to the government committments on climate change and the need to move away from fossil fuel and towards renewable enrgy to meet greenhouse gas emission reduction targets by 2020.

* Applicant:: Moorland Energy

* Application Location:: Ebberston Well Site, Givendale Head Farm, Ebberston

* Application Description:: Pipeline and gas processing plant Are you happy for us to use your email address as the preferred method of communication on this matter?: 1

http://www.NorthYorkMoors-npa.gov.uk

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ine Bell Ca

From:

NYM Contact [web-server@northyorkmoors-npa.gov.uk]

NYM Contact [web-server@northyorkmoors-npa.gov.uk]

NYMPA

Sent:

To:

Development Control

Subject:

North York Moors Feedback

Planning Consultation Response Form

If you wish to make a comment on an application it must be in writing and will become a matter of public record available for inspection. The Authority can therefore not accept comments marked confidential as valid objections and any such documents will be returned to you.

* Please fill in as many of these fields as you know. Thank you.

Application Reference No:: NYM/2010/0262/EIA Your Email Address::

Your Telephone No::

Your Address:: Orchard House South

Lane Thornton Dale N Yorks

YO18 7QU

Your Name:: Jon Bates

Are you objecting to the proposal?: Yes

Your comments on The Proposal:: Objections based on the following points (more detailed objection letter to be sent by post in due course)

1) Landscape

The type and nature of this proposal will be visually intrusive, out of character and extremely detrimental to the landscape, immediately adjacent to the North York Moors National Park.

2) Traffic

Additional traffic casuing disturnbance and disruption, especially during the construction phase.

I also object to the proposal to construct the new access route to the A170, leading to damage and loss of agricultural land and creating a hazardous new access point on to the busy A170.

3) Pollution

Emissions, noise, light and vibration associated with the whole proposed development with insufficient mitigating measures

- 4) Safety and security risk of fire/explosion
- 5) Economic impact

Dubious economics relating to gas extraction and risk of serious damage to tourism economy.

6) Environmental Impact

The proposed development will be damaging and harmful to wildlife, both in the construction phase due to high levels of disturbance and on completion due to the industrial nature of the facility, set directly within a rural location. Wildlife species such as the brown hare (which while not currently rare or endangered is one of the governments priority species for conservation) will suffer disturbance and loss of habitat if this proposal goes ahead.

In terms of cultural heritage, the proposed route of the pipeline crosses numerous sites of archaeological importance (both scheduled and unscheduled) which would be damaged by construction of a gas pipeline.

- * Applicant:: Moorland Energy Ltd
- * Application Location:: Ebberston Well Site Givendale Head Farm Ebberston
- * Application Description:: gas production from existing well site and provision of a local equipment room together with construction of 2 no. underground gas pipelines (700 metres) as part of the pipework link to a proposed gas processing facility near Thornton le Dale
- * LPA Reference:: NY/2010/0159/ENV

Are you happy for us to use your email address as the preferred method of communication on this matter?: 1

Janet Sanderson Walnut Cottage Priestmans Lane Thornton Dale Pickering North Yorkshire YO18 7RT

Planning policy ref. NYM/2010/0262/EIA

Chief Planning Officer

North York Moors National Park The Old Vicarage Bondgate Helmsley

Dear Mr. France,

York YO62 5BP

NYMNPA Kamay 2010

I understand that the Ryedale Gas Project (the well, pipeline, Processing plant & New Access road) though only partly in the Parks is considered to be one planning application. I also understand that as gas is considered to be a mineral, the project is governed by Mining legislation which allows the Gas Processing plant proposed for Hurrell Lane to be considered for planning consent. I therefore have to object to the whole of the Ryedale Gas Project proposed by Moorland Energy LTD.

We bought our property in Thornton Dale, one of the NYMNP's prettiest villages expecting that living in a conservation area, our homes would be protected from the perils of this type of industry. The "NYMNP Local Development Framework" (3.2) states –

"It will also be important to ensure that there is a 'joined up' approach to planning for settlements and areas which are split by the Park boundary"

The consideration of this development does not display "joined up" thinking. The small building on the South west of the site is clearly visible from the foot paths to the north of the A170 so I doubt that the railway bund will conceal a flare stack in excess of 15 metres and the other buildings proposed for this highly industrial eye sore and as such they will impact on the beauty of the Parks. Other views from the South, West and East are hardly mentioned in Moorland's plans. Emissions and pollutants be it noise, smell or light, do not recognise the Parks boundary and neither does the wild life. We will suffer the impact on our village.

The businesses of Thornton Dale are almost entirely based on tourism and agriculture. At the bottom of Hurrell Lane there is a complex of seven holiday cottages and overlooking the site there is another holiday complex (Easthill) with chalets over looking the proposed gas plant. I am the owner of a small holiday cottage myself and I can vouch that this is more than seasonal trade — we have the whole of January 2011 fully booked already. Our guests appreciate being able to park their car in the garage and enjoy the bridleways and foot paths surrounding the village and these include those accessed from Hurrell Lane. Moorland are offering jobs to the village as incentive to accepting this proposal, but at what cost

to our tourism industry? I believe that accepting this application would be short sighted. Tourists and residents alike would have their recreational amenities restricted to the centre and Parks side of our village.

The project is the antithesis of the character of the NYMNP and its immediate surroundings and as such I strongly object to it.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Sanderson

NYMNPA Za MAY 2010 NYMNPA 13 MAY 2010 6H Roxby Hill
Pickering Road
Thornton Dale
North Yorkshire
YO18 7LH

Dear Sins, I am uniting to protest about the plans to suild a gas plant new Thornton Dale. The plans to build it in a quiet unspoilt over where see is a lot of wied life will disrupt all the birds and animals. The winnel impact on that put of the country side will be I have build here for fifty five years & chave enjoyed the tranquility & heruty ? peat area, & are way much against it being ruined by intrusive & would of The proposed new wood will affect the Charach huiding. holiday thathe to the coast the tourism I am ung much against the whole in the willage project.

Yours Stucenery,

(Copy of Letter But to: M. M. Comery, Senior Budopuner autrocoppies, NYCG County Hall, Northallaton Mrs M Monkman 7Aunums Close Thornton le Dale **Pickering** North Yorkshire **YO 18 7TP**



I wish to object to any planning being put forward to build a gas plant in our village. It would spoil the whole area. Do you realise the wild life we have around there, Barn owls, deer, and lots more it is just a delight to walk along Hurrell lane with the wild life and the beautiful country side.

I am also very concerned about the fumes coming from it they could travel right across

the village and certainly up the lane to the retirement homes.

And what about the tourist trade, the Hotels and Bed and Breakfast, it is just crazy all together. If this was ever allowed to be built it would be the ruination of the village.

Mrs M Monkman One very unhappy resident

Parsley House 20 Heron Close Thornton-le-Dale YO18 7SN

The Chief Planning Officer
North York Moors National Park,
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
HELMSLEY
YORK
YO62 5BP

8th May 2010

Dear Sir,

Re Proposed Gas Processing Plant Thornton-le-Dale Ref: NY/2010/0159/ENV

We note from the County Council's website that a formal application has recently been submitted in respect of the above proposed plant. We have concerns about the proposed plant and write to you, therefore as one of the official consultees, to let you know that we wish to object to the proposed plant.

M

We moved to Thornton-le-Dale just under two yeas ago to enjoy living in an area of great natural beauty within the National Park. The proposed site for the plant appears to be cynically placed literally just *outside* the boundary of the National Park and well under a mile from our home. It would not be possible to get the plant closer to the National Park without actually putting it in the Park.

Our concerns about the plant are that:

- It will be clearly visible from within the National Park, from the A170, from the road through the Marishes and the proposed screening trees could take decades to grow and even then would not be tall enough to hide some of the structures on the site. Moorland's proposal to put further trees on embankments doesn't seem appropriate or effective as trees do not appear to grow well when placed on an embankment;
- As the facility will operate for 24 hours, it will need illumination and so there will be light pollution which will almost certainly be visible from our home and a detriment to our amenity here within the National Park; we understand that these sorts of plants often also run a 'flare' which will be several metres high, burning from the tallest structure and therefore visible for some distance from the site;

- Such processing plants give off a distinctive, unpleasant 'bad eggs' smell which will
 be detectable in the village and a 'turn off' to the many visitors to the National Park
 who come he Thornton-le-Dale;
- In a rural area such as this, the proposed site for the plant is very large and we are concerned that if allowed to proceed now, further enlargements and other development might ensue in and around the area of the plant;
- During construction the volume of heavy lorries passing through the village would be unacceptably high with noise and fumes which would be a major detriment to the tourist business upon which much of the village depends. Access to the proposed site could only use four possible roads, the A170 which is already heavily used, Whitbygate and Maltongate, neither of which would be suitable for such traffic. The latter is barely 50 yards from our home so we are be very concerned about the possibility of both construction and service lorries taking short cuts to the A64 by using Maltongate though the village.

The area of Ryedale between Thornton-le-Dale and the coast is an area of great beauty. The proposal to locate this plant in such an area and literally just outside the boundary of the National Park seems to us to be entirely against the spirit of why we have National Parks in this country.

We would be grateful if you would record our objection to this proposal and trust that the National Park Authority will use its best influence to stop this proposal.

NYMNPA

010s 1411 S1

Yours faithfully,

Nigel & Dawn Wright

Pepper (orn CoHage. 1 The Terrace

REF. NY/2010/0139/ENV.

Willow .

Pickeriney YOIS 7JZ

NYMNPA

Dear Sir.

We would like to register

17 MAY 2010

our objections to plans to build a gas plant in Hurrel home.
Thornton Dale. Aport from the obvious concerns about Pollutions disruption due to increased traffic etc it is just not the right place to build. You cannot replace hand baken up with buildings once it's gone it's gone. It would make more sense to build a few miles further on in the industrial estate out side Pickering or as the Dational Parke

have given permission to drill on new hand and the infustracture is already in face, build the gas stant in Situ. Just to rub soll in the wound we don't even have gas in our Odlage.

yours fouthfully

NYMNPA 17 MAY 2010

A M Bryars
The Grange
High Street
Thornton Le Dale
North Yorkshire
Y018 70W

Chief Planning Officer
North York Moors National Park
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley
York YO62 5BP Dear Sir / Madam

Ref: Planning proposal number NY/2010/0159/ENV

Dear Sir / Madam



We write to object, most strongly, to the above for the following reasons.

- The proposed location will significantly blight the environment, which will not be mediated with the intended landscape features on a 360 degree view.
- I am unconvinced by assurances contained in the planning proposal that environmental pollution issues, such as noise, smell, light and public safety will be effectively mitigated.
- o Tourism is an essential aspect of the local economy, which will negatively affect Rydale revenues, including wider employment, if this planning permission is approved.
- Recent publications (Moors Messenger May 2010) state "Future Proofing The North Yorkshire Moors" and articles from Yorkshire Tourism all state the importance of maintaining both the environment and building tourism for the future.

Yours faithfully

3.05.2010

Attn.: Mr C. France Director of Planning

North York Moors National Park.

The Old Vicarage

Bondgate.

HELMSLEY.

York.

YO62 5BP.



Dear Mr France

Re: NY/2010/0159/ENV. - Gas Plant, Thornton Dale

It is with a sense of complete incredulity that I find it necessary to write to you about the above application.

I was born and raised in Middlesbrough and from the age of 24 until present (67) have lived at Thornton Dale, latterly running my own Consulting Civil and Structural Engineering Practice, so have a limited knowledge of Sour Gas Plants and their effects. Also because of my Middlesbrough connections I am very careful not to take a "NIMBY" attitude.

However, it seems beyond comprehension that a second Sour Gas Plant is proposed within an area of North Yorkshire renowned for its natural beauty and reliant on agriculture and tourism.

I am convinced that the plant will cause smell (bad egg/sulphur), will cause considerable background light at night and will be seen from a great distance. If a second opinion is required on the smell issue, may I suggest that people living at a considerable distance down-wind of the Knapton Sour Gas Plant be approached.

I have heard varying numbers of personnel to be employed given by the applicant, all of which are at variance with the numbers given to me during the public meeting held at Thornton Dale Village Hall (to which we were not personally invited by the applicant). The number of jobs to apprenticeships proposed appear totally illogical and it is interesting to note that the applicant is non-committal when pressed for guarantees.

No minor "carrots" of possible jobs and apprenticeships can outweigh the distress/damage which the plant will do to the local area. I cannot see how specialist

sub-contractors can be forced to provide such apprenticeships or how training of local young people, totally unaware of the specialist nature of such a plant, could be given when no suitable further education facilities are available in this area.

Coniferous trees are **not** natural to the Vale of Pickering and take approximately 20 years to approach anything like maturity. They will **not** grow successfully (if at all) on top of a railway embankment due to the method of its construction, and being a single track width will be extremely unstable should they be fortunate to survive.

I apologise for my long letter but feel that the application for a Sour Gas Plant at Thornton Dale is totally wrong and I strongly object to it.

The best place for it would be as close to the well head as possible where it will be fully screened by forest trees, far away from habitation and will negate the need to transport a very toxic gas via pipes.

I assume that if N.Y.C.C. and R.D.C. do give approval that they will treat any future planning application in Ryedale as permitted development as long as it is screened by coniferous trees.

MYMMPA

- B Juli 2010

Yours sincerely

Mr Ronald Douglas, Finch-

Birch Lea Wilton Road Thornton Dale Pickering

North Yorkshire

YO18 7QP

Caroline Bell

Froi

NYM Contact [web-server@northyorkmoors-npa.gov.uk]

Sent: To: 08 June 2010 13:25 Development Control

Subject:

North York Moors Feedback

Planning Consultation Response Form

If you wish to make a comment on an application it must be in writing and will become a matter of public record available for inspection. The Authority can therefore not accept comments marked confidential as valid objections and any such documents will be returned to you.

* Please fill in as many of these fields as you know. Thank you.

Application Reference No:: NYM/2010/0262/EIA Your Email Address::

Your Telephone No:: Your Address:: 11 High

Street Thornton Le Dale

YO18 7QW

Your Name:: Nicola Hawkins

Are you objecting to the proposal?: Yes

Your comments on The Proposal:: The project will have a detrimental impact to the village and the surrounding places. Our village relies on tourism and tourists will be put off by this sort of plant and therfore jobs will be lost and business closed down. The amount of disruption to the area whilst the project is being constructed will alone kill the tourism. Me & my family moved to this area for it's beauty and something like this should not be built near here.

- * Applicant:: Moorland Energy Limited
- * Application Location:: Easting 449955 Northing 487173
- * Application Description:: gas production from existing well site and provision of a local equipment room together with construction of 2 no. underground gas pipelines (700 metres) as part of the pipework link to a proposed gas processing facility near Thornton le Dale Are you happy for us to use your email address as the preferred method of communication on this matter?: 1

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NOW ZOID



Bleak Farm Cottage Church Lane Thornton Le Dale Pickering North Yorkshire YO18 7QL 3rd June 2010

NY/2010/0159/ENV

Dear Chief Planning Officer,

I am rather worried about the above planning application. I have lived in Thornton Le Dale for the past eight years with my husband and two children. There are three major concerns that bother me.

1: Traffic

Already my children dice with death walking to school, with the lack of pavements, lack of street lighting, speeding motorists, people running the red lights and going the wrong way down the one-way system. The village just cannot cope with any more traffic. The gas project works traffic can only make it worse.

I understand that Moor lands are putting a road down to the project running from the A170 direct to site, but even this has not been thought out properly, this has been the site of two tragic accidents in the last five years. Putting a road here will put more lives in danger.

2:Tourism within the village

Thornton Le Dale thrives as a tourist village, with many of the residents running businesses related to tourism, they will be affected in a major way, who wants to go on holiday and see views of a gas plant no-one, this will reduce the desirability of the region, and over time will see the loss of jobs.

3: Pollution

The smell from the refuse site in the village has been awful for the residents of church lane, just as this is being capped you want to allow a huge gas plant to start churning out even more noxious smells.

Please can both the other sites north of the A170 be reconsidered, they are nearer the well site and affect the area in much less of a way. One of the sites is even hidden away, no one would know it was there. This plant is only supposed to last for 20 years, the impact on the village will be longer.

I could go on and on about how this will effect Thornton, as it will effect us all in so many very little ways, ways that wont be recognised until the building works are completed, this may seem very insignificant to people living in other areas. But they will have a very significant effect on all the residents, businesses and tourists relying on Thornton Le Dale staying one of the prettiest villages in the county.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C J Chapman

Easthill Lodge Wilton Road Thornton - le Dale YO18 7QP

28th May 2010

Mr. M Convery Senior Development Control Officer North Yorkshire County Council County Hall Northallerton DL7 8AH

Objection to planning application NY/2010/0159/ENV

Dear sir,

We strongly object to the above planning application, as it will spoil the entire ambience of the village. It will be visually intrusive in a beautiful area appreciated by residents and visitors alike. We feel it could also have an effect on the health of those living near to the site, which includes many elderly people.

This is a strong tourist area and this installation will badly effect this, with the knock on effect of lost services, shops etc. The disruption to traffic will also cause a lot of problems to everyone.

To build this Gas Plant on the edge of the National Park will set a precedent for future development in this beautiful village ruining the whole area

This planning application should be refused.

Yours sincerely

Λ

A SYMMYM A

R.G & S.M. Buckler

Copy to- Chief Planning Officer
North York Moors National Park
The Old Vicarage Bondgate Helmsley YO62 5BP

Lesley Gray
Bankside
Church Lane
Thornton Dale
Pickering
North Yorkshire
YO18 7QL

18th May 2010

Mr M Convery Senior Development Control Officer North Yorkshire county council County Hall Northallerton DL7 8AH



NYMMPA 2.6 Mill 10111 OH

Dear Sir

I wish to express my objection to planning application NY/2010/0159/ENV

As a resident of over 25 years in this lovely village, I am alarmed that such a project is being considered which will have such an impact on the environment.

As a regular dog walker, I frequently take the route down Hurrell Lane towards Charity Farm. The thought that this area could be altered and a huge factory site installed is beyond belief.

We have had to put up with smells and noise from the local tip for many years. To think we could have another structure at the other side of the main road is disturbing.

Thornton Dale is known to be one of the prettiest villages in North Yorkshire, and brings in many tourists, but for how long? If this monstrosity is allowed to go ahead, then noise pollution will surely increase, as will dust levels I realise the area marked is not actually National Park land, but how much closer can a boundary be? Do we expect our wildlife to distinguish one side of Hurrell Lane from the other, will foxes and badgers have to move their habitat to accommodate this project?

If this plan is allowed to go ahead when can we expect the next project to be applied for?

We are told it will bring jobs into the area, but these surely will be short lived and will these jobs balance out those which are lost as the tourism possibly drops in the village?

I cannot express how much I am against this plan

Yours sincerely

Lesley Gray

Croftburn
Maltongate
Thornton le Dale
Pickering
N Yorks

1 June 2010

Mr M Hill,
Development Control Manager
North York Moors National Park Authority
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley
YO62 5BP

NYMNPA Z JUN 2010 DM

Dear Mr Hill

Re: NYM/2010/0262/EIA Moorland Energy Ltd

We are writing to express our concerns and objection to the above application, by Moorland Energy Ltd, for a gas processing plant off Hurrell Lane, Thornton Le Dale.

Key reasons for objection to the gas plant at Thornton Le Dale

- There are more appropriate locations and more environmentally friendly options for this project see below.
- A heavy industrial plant, such as this, is totally inappropriate to Thornton Le Dale, which is primarily a tourist and agricultural area.
- Loss/spoiling of the view across the landscape. The applicant's illustration is from the most advantageous viewpoint. The majority of views will be from a higher elevation and the plant will be a conspicuous eyesore.
- This initial application is likely to be the 'thin edge of a wedge' and the applicant is likely to wish to expand processes in the future.
- The applicant's report appears on the surface to be thorough, but does not fully
 explore the options. No cost comparison data are available but it is our suspicion
 that Thornton Le Dale is the most economically favourable option to Moorland
 Energy Ltd.
- The applicant's promise of employment for local people is equally applicable to all suggested locations. Indeed some of the locations are better served by public transport than Thornton Le Dale site.

Preferred option - 1 Ebberston Wellsite

. . .

- The applicant states that this would be the preferred option but has dismissed it on the grounds of planning issues.
- Converting the gas to Electricity at the wellsite would give the most environmentally friendly option.
 - Reduced need for treatment of the gas, as the generation would process would burn off the impurities.
 - Smaller overall footprint for the facility.
 - No pipelines, access road construction and chemical processing plant.
- The National Park has been able to change it's rules to allow drilling and could presumably further relax these to allow electricity generation. This site is at the perimeter of the National Park and one option could be to sell the necessary land to Moorland Energy Ltd. Alternatively Moorland Energy Ltd could purchase a site adjacent to the National Park.

Option - 2: Knapton Generating Station

- This is an existing industrial complex and is experienced in the generation of electricity from sour gas.
- The Moorland Energy Ltd report states that the existing generation plant at Knapton is of low efficiency and does not have capacity to process the existing gas plus this new gas supply. The Ebberstone wellsite thus provides an excellent opportunity to invest in a new electricity generation plant and thereby increasing both processing capacity and more importantly energy efficiency.
- The electricity generation plant reduces the need for gas processing (as above).

Option -3: Land Adjacent to Pickering NTS

- This site is already a well established industrial area, with the necessary infrastructure.
- Public transport service is optimal for the employees
- The Moorland Energy report mentions 'great crested newt colonies'. If present, such colonies are relatively easy to relocate.

Thank you for allowing us to express our concerns regarding this application.

Peter Smith	
	Margaret Smith
- y. JUN 20	10
Yours sincerely NYMNP	A

Kirkfield House,

Rectory Lane,

Thornton le Dale,

Pickering,

North Yorkshire.

YO18 7QG

5th June 2010

Mr M Convery
Senior Development Control Officer
North Yorkshire County Council

County Hall Northallerton

DL78AH

Dear Mr. Convery,

Planning Application Number: NY/2010/0159/ENV

NYMMEA

- 6 3111 2010

Proposal by Moorland Energy Limited to construct a pipeline to and construct a gas processing facility at Hurrell Lane, Thornton Dale.

We wish to object in the strongest possible terms to the above planning application. We live very close to the site chosen by Moorland Energy to build their sour gas processing plant.

Our concerns are:

1. Visual Amenity

The visual amenity of the Vale of Pickering will be forever damaged if this work is allowed to proceed. We do not believe that any screening, not least that proposed in their planning application, would adequately screen this eyesore. It will be tens of years before newly planted trees will reach the required height and until then the plant will be visually intrusive. This is a predominantly farming and tourism based community and such a development would be completely out of character. Although not in the National Park it must have a detrimental impact on the National Park.

2. Pollution

This is a quiet, tranquil rural area. The effect of the noise, vibration, dust and odour on the local area will be immense. In addition there will be light spill from 24 hour operation of the plant. This will adversely affect all who live, not only in Thornton Dale, but also Wilton and Allerston. The closest residents to the proposed plant are elderly people who may be more likely to suffer adverse effects from pollutants.

3. Safety and Security

The planning application gives very little priority to security and safety.

4. Environmental Issues

An environmental impact survey was undertaken on two occasions in October and November 2009. At best this is inadequate and unrepresentative. Those of us who regularly walk the lanes and footpaths in the proposed area are very well aware of the wealth of wildlife, both flora and fauna, to be found all year round. We are also aware that winter is not usually the optimal time to observe it. It goes without saying that a large scale industrial development will destroy wildlife habitats and ecosystems.

5. Effect on Tourism

Tourism is the lifeblood of the local community and Thornton Dale is fortunate to benefit from many visitors who return year after year. Who will want to visit a village that is blighted by an unsightly, smelly and potentially dangerous industrial plant? Moorland Energy make much of the employment opportunities that the gas plant will generate but in reality the number of jobs available to local people is unlikely to be more that 2 or 3. These will be more than offset by the local jobs lost when businesses allied to tourism fail as a direct result of the plant.

6. Traffic

W. W. W. Co.

Mas hiji, a =

The disruption during construction of the proposed plant will be enormous. The extra construction traffic in addition to the normal traffic along the A170 will make an already busy and dangerous road far worse.

7. Contribution of the project

The sour gas plant will make a minimal contribution to the country's energy needs and the damage to the local area must surely outweigh this tiny benefit.

8. Dangerous planning precedents

Many residents of Thornton Dale who have applied in vain for planning permission are well aware of the building restrictions placed on them in order to preserve the character of the village. The chances of an ordinary resident successfully gaining planning permission to build on this green field site must be nil. We urge you not to create a dangerous precedent by allowing Moorland Energy to build a large industrial monstrosity on this site of natural beauty thus destroying the character of the local area.

Moorland Energy are based 250 miles away. They have made little attempt to engage with the local district council and seem to have no regard for the local people, the local economy or the environment.

Please do not let them ruin our village. Reject this planning application!

Yours sincerely,

Drs Alison and Stephen Williams

CC. Mrs Anne McIntosh MP Chief Planning Officer, NYMNP Editor, Gazette & Herald newspaper 07.06.2010

Attn.: Mr M Convery

Senior Development Control Officer

North Yorkshire County Council

County Hall Northallerton DL7 8AH

Dear Sir

Re: Planning No. NY/2010/0159/ENV

I write with reference to the above planning application and wish to register my strong disapproval of the proposal.

I am aware that many have written, also in disapproval, putting forward reasoned arguments.

Without repeating any list of points against I focus my disapproval on the site chosen for the plant - an area in open countryside, visible from all directions, no matter how much screening is put in. Focus has been on the view from Thornton Dale where properties just half a mile away look directly onto the site, but I suggest that not sufficient attention has been given to the view from the south where traffic on roads coming north from the Wolds is in full view of buildings, towers, pipework, lights and flares.

What other sites have been considered? The only other site I have seen mentioned in the press is that of the Wilton Heights Quarry and although I am against the plant being placed in open countryside **anywhere** in Ryedale, I would like to suggest that the Wilton Heights Quarry has much to recommend it in comparison with the Hurrell Lane site.

- 1. The quarry is vast and can take the plant.
- 2. It is deep and will conceal all plant.
- 3. It is isolated.
- 4. Prevailing west winds carrying smell/fumes will have no effect on settlements (cf Allerston/Ebberston for the Hurrell Lane site).
- 5. Instead of access road being built south of the A170 to the Hurrell Lane site, access road can be built north of the A170. Length of road very little greater than the one proposed. Exit onto A170 can be at the same point as proposed. Suggest that perhaps near to quarry itself where entrance could be difficult, road could divert west to join the top of Outgang Lane and so achieve a flatter entrance.

Outgang Lane itself must not be used - dangerous cross roads at village end with properties, lower part of lane used for recycling/refuse traffic, narrow lane well used by farm traffic and walkers. Lane maintained by Highways Authority - new access road to be privately owned, privately used and privately maintained.

May I implore the Planning Committee to reject the present proposal as totally inappropriate for such an open site in the centre of the Vale of Pickering so that the applicant will consider other less obtrusive sites for the plant.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Heather R Finch Birch Lea Wilton Road Thornton Dale Pickering North Yorkshire YO18 7QP

NYMNPA I. JUN 2010

cc. Mr C France, Director of Planning, NYMNP, Helmsley Chief Planning Officer, RDC, Malton

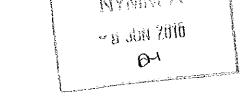
Prospect Farm Cottages

Chief Planning Officer North York Moors National Park The Old Vicarge Bondgate Helmsley

York YO62 5BP

7 June 2010

Dear Sir



Objection to planning application NY/2010/0158/ENV

We are the proprietors of a four cottage self-catering business at the western edge of Wilton to the north of the A170. Our core business, built up over the last six years, is tourist accommodation and equine holidays (guests bring their own horses, stay in a cottage and ride out on the bridleways to the north of the property in Dalby forest).

We strongly object to this development for the following reasons:

- Our establishment is sited above and to the north east of the proposed development and will create an eyesore, both night and day, for ourselves and guests and would not encourage any thoughts of a return visit.
- The route of the proposed pipeline follows the main bridleway from Thornton
 to Givendale which we use constantly to access other areas of the moors for
 our guests and their horses. This route will be totally off limits during
 construction and unsightly until recovery has taken place over a period of
 years.
- Guests to the area, approaching our establishment from all directions, will
 clearly see the plant not a good impression when they have come for a
 holiday in a known rural area of outstanding beauty. In an area which is not
 employment rich and relies heavily on agriculture and tourism, any
 development which detracts from its natural beauty is a serious disadvantage
 for residents and businesses in the area.
- As far as we are concerned the proposals to landscape and screen the plant are inadequate and out of step with the natural surroundings eg pine trees/soft woods in a predominantly hard wood area. If hard woods were planted the gas will probably run out by the time they were serving their purpose with no leaves on hard woods during winter they would not be fit for purpose.
- Light pollution in the hours of darkness and flaring of excess materials, plus odours, will also be a problem to all residents and visitors in the area.

Suggestions:

- Why is it not possible to use the purpose built site at Knapton as apparently this performs the same function?
- Why is it not possible to re-commission the existing site at Pickering?
- Did the National Park Authority, when granting permission to drill for gas in the park, consider what the consequences would be if, as has happened, gas was discovered where would it be processed this seems to be very short-sighted. Why is it not possible to site the plant close to the well head in the forest, surrounded by existing mature trees and hidden from all? Refusal of this solution by the National Park Authority would appear totally irresponsible.

We genuinely believe that this proposal will have a devastating effect on our business and this area in general, especially in these times of economic difficulty. It is a known fact that local authorities and tourism agencies have put a great deal of effort and funding over the last few years to improve the tourism industry in this area therefore the granting of this proposal will be a severe blow to the progress being made thus far.

If anyone from North Yorkshire County Council, the National Parks Authority or the developers wish to contact us to discuss these points personally we will be more than happy to do so.

We would appreciate a response at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully

G P Webster

LS White



York House High Street Thornton le Dale YO18 7QW

Mr. M Hill
Planning Officer
North York Moors National Park
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley
York
YO62 5BP



11th June 2010

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to express my objection to the Planning Application, submitted by Moorland Energy, to site a gas wellhead, pipework and ancillary structures on National Park land.

I am a resident of Thornton le Dale and I have many concerns about the environmental impact of this entire operation, from wellhead to processing plant at Hurrell Lane. I have attached the objection letter I submitted to North Yorkshire County Council Planning Department but I would also like to direct some further objections to your department.

All quotations in this letter come directly from Moorland Energy company literature or websites.

I have done some research on Moorland Energy's company profile and have arrived at the conclusion that their sole purpose is profit. The company appears to have been set-up by financial managers with a background in the petro-chemical industry, in order to exploit the PEDL120 licence:

"The PEDL 120 licence provides a low-risk, high-value exploitation platform for creating future value."

In my opinion, their operation is done not out of any public-spirited desire to increase this country's wealth, it is purely to exploit this local resource, siphon-off the profits and pay them to their creditors, investors and shareholders. None of this money will be pumped back into the regional economy and local people will see no benefit from it as the company is based in Guildford, Surrey. My first objection, therefore, is that there will be long-term disruption to an area of the National Park from which the National Park and its visitors will receive no benefit. In fact this operation will make a

section of the National Park a no-go area for visitors, which could detract from their enjoyment of the National Park.

Whilst the PEDL120 licence is worth a lot of money to Moorland Energy and its investors, it will be a drop in the ocean in terms of meeting the national demand for gas energy. Please don't be under any illusion that the gas reserves which Moorland Energy are seeking to exploit amount to anything of significance at national level. I have been informed that Moorland energy's contribution to the National Gas Network will be around two tenths of one percent.

I hope you are also aware that this is not their only intended site:

"Additional exploratory work on the PEDL 120 licence is also planned".

If you grant them permission to drill here, they are going to be looking for further sites within the National Park. How many? Who knows – but the PEDL120 licence covers,

"approximately 300 km² in area in the Cleveland Basin".

NYMNPA

And the company states,

"At Moorland our vision is to become one of the UK's most significant independent on-shore Oil & Gas suppliers".

My second objection, therefore, is that this operation will be repeated in the future thereby denying further areas of the National Park to visitors. It will be harder to reject a second application when the first is granted. Also I understand that Edgon Resources are planning a similar operation at Westerdale. Granting the first application could open the floodgates.

I note with irony that Moorland Energy's application for the sour gas processing plant is not on National Park land. They know full well that they wouldn't stand a chance of building such a site there. Isn't it somewhat unfortunate for them that they have to approach you for permission to drill?

If you grant Moorland Energy this permission to drill, they will be one step closer to getting their processing plant approved. The site of this plant, whilst not on National Park land, is slap bang next to it. The plant will have a major impact on Thornton le Dale which <u>is</u> in the National Park. So, one way or another, this project is going to have a greater impact on the National Park than just a few hundred metres of pipework and some sheds. If you grant this application, the National Park, and residents living within its southern boundary, will suffer. This is my third objection.

By the way, have you noticed that this company has no proven track record? Would you employ someone without references? Would you let someone drill and extract volatile and toxic substances on your land without knowing that they were up to the task? How do we know that their practices will be safe? A fireball of exploding natural gas could do a lot of damage to National Park land and wildlife, especially if it

takes five or six hours to get under control, as happened at Cleburne, Texas on 7th June 2010 when a gas pipeline was ruptured. This is my fourth objection – the operation is potentially harmful to health, wildlife and the environment and, as such, has no rightful place inside a National Park.

My fifth objection is that the structures will be totally out of keeping with the surrounding parkland, no matter how well camouflaged they may be. There will also be noise and smells that have no place in the natural environment. This operation may well scare off birds and animals that visitors want to see.

The North York Moors National Park contains some of the most beautiful scenery in this country. I don't want to see this spoilt by gas pipelines and wellheads and I most certainly, as a resident of the National Park, do not want to live in a landscape blighted by a monstrous gas processing plant.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I hope you will read the accompanying letter as well. I urge you to reject this application by Moorland Energy and to raise an official objection to the proposed processing plant at Hurrell Lane.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Wilkinson



York House High Street Thornton le Dale YO18 7QW

Mr. M Convery
Senior Development Control Officer
North Yorkshire County Council
County Hall
Northallerton
DL7 8AH

10th June 2010

Planning Application Number: NY/2010/0159/ENV

Dear Sir,

I wish to voice my protest at Moorland Energy's proposed Sour Gas Processing Plant, off Hurrell Lane in Thornton le Dale.

My objections to this development are myriad and can be grouped under the following categories:

- 1. Damage to the ecology of the area
- 2. Health and Safety of the village residents and visitors to the village
- 3. Site safety & security
- 4. Traffic and safety on the A170
- 5. Economic factors
- 6. Dangerous Precedents

1. Damage to the ecology of the area

Moorland Energy class the area as being of, "low nature conservation value..." However, if you consult the National Biodiversity Network Gateway, you can see that there have been surveys carried out over the last 25 years within a 5 km radius of the site which prove the exact opposite. Among the hundreds of catalogued plant, insect, reptile, amphibian, bird and mammal species are:

Badger

Red squirrel

Otter

Pine Marten

Natterer's bat

Great crested newt

Barn owl

NYMNPA

Skylark
Lesser spotted woodpecker
"ngfisher

Many of these species are rare, threatened or protected under UK law. Whilst not all the hundreds of listed species will be present at the actual site in Hurrell Lane, neither can they all be absent from it. I have personally seen barn owls, skylarks and lesser spotted woodpeckers at the site. I have also seen bats (which I can't identify) and regularly hear cuckoos and owls.

The destruction of habitat in this area would be a crime if committed by a private individual (EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna. This is also commonly known as the Habitats and Species Directive. This has been applied under UK law through the Conservation (natural habitat) Regulations 1994), how can an industrial developer be allowed to get away with this?

I'm sure the council is aware of the need for a licence from Defra to develop on land that may include the habitat of the great crested newt? The seriousness of non-compliance (even accidentally) cannot be overstated. Perhaps the council should consider an independent Ecological Impact Survey to be carried out immediately to determine the accuracy of the one carried out on behalf of Moorland Gas?

It should be noted that, with the recent European Court ruling, the responsibility for licence application has moved from the consultant ecologist working with the developer to the developer itself. The developer is now also responsible for ensuring that the terms of the licence are met. Where it is deemed that developers have not met their responsibilities, either in terms of seeking a licence or not ensuring compliance, the developer may be liable for a £5000 fine and or six months in prison.

2. Health and Safety of the village residents and visitors to the village

In all of their public relations literature Moorlands Energy make not a single mention of the fact that they will be pumping large quantities of hydrogen sulphide gas into their proposed plant. This is the raison d'être of the plant – why have they not mentioned this gas? Is it because it is highly toxic and highly volatile?

I do not feel remotely comfortable with the thought of living so close to such a toxic and explosive substance and Moorland Energy's refusal to even mention the gas does not fill me with any confidence as to their ability to manage it safely. They have not informed the residents of how they intend to carry out environmental monitoring of SO₂ levels, particulate levels and other discharges. They have failed to satisfy the local population that they have in place rigid, robust and appropriate systems for inspecting pipework to detect corrosion and other defects.

Under the COMAH Regulations, Moorland Energy are required to provide information safety measures at their establishments to anyone likely to be affected by a major accident occurring at their establishment. They have not done this.

This could be interpreted as a somewhat dismissive attitude towards the health and wellbeing of the local residents.

I would like to know how they intend to manage fugitive leaks and emergency venting procedures in the event of a high CO₂ stream causing failure of the flare system. I would also like to know how they would intend to manage a serious accidental discharge, or how they would alert the local population. I would like to know how many gas detectors they intend to install around the area and at what concentration level they would deem it necessary to inform the public of toxic discharge.

I think that it would be a gesture of goodwill, on behalf of Moorland Energy, if they offered to provide concerned residents with portable gas detectors.

Moorland Energy have made no mention of how they intend to manage industrial wastewater, heavy metals, hard effluents, sulphates and solid waste residues and it worries me that they are not prepared to reassure residents on such serious issues.

Moorland Energy state that the minimum depth of their supply pipeline will be 1.2 metres below ground. In light of the recent disaster in the United States, whereby workers sinking pylons in Texas ruptured a gas pipeline, I do not believe this is a sufficiently safe depth. I believe that there should be an urgent safety review of this company's practices with regard to their pipeline construction.

Moorland Energy's website claims, "Moorland is committed to operating safely and with no adverse effects to the environment." Yet this is not the impression I have of their organisation. Their lack of openness with regard to safety is extremely worrying and needs to be addressed.

3. Site Safety & Security

Moorland Energy have made no mention at all of the fact that they will be introducing into our local environment a terrorist threat where previously none existed. Can the Council reassure local residents that all emergency agencies are fully resourced to cope with a major incident from this site? I'm sure I don't need to remind you that, in the event of a catastrophic failure, a toxic / flammable gas cloud could engulf the village of Thornton le Dale in minutes and could well hit the eastern edge of Pickering (with a moderate 30mph easterly wind) in probably no more than four minutes? This is what happened at Bourne Valley, Dorset on 12th December 1999 when a low-pressure gas storage facility failed and 40 tonnes of natural gas escaped. Reports of

gas leaks were received by Transco up to 6 km downwind. Fortunately, this small, low-pressure discharge did not ignite.

I know our emergency services are superb, but will they be ready and equipped to tackle such a major incident as could happen at this type of plant?

It is worth considering the safety record of similar onshore processing sites. I know for a fact that there have, within the last twelve months, been explosions at plants, or along gas pipelines, at:

Cleburne, Texas on 7th June 2010 killing one person and injuring 10 others Moundsville, West Virginia on 7th June 2010 severely burning seven workers Darrouzett, Texas on 8th June 2010 with two people killed and three injured Middletown, Conneticutt on 7th February 2010 which injured twenty seven people Garner, North Carolina in June 2009 killing four and injuring sixty seven people.

With a safety record like this, I would seriously question the natural gas production industry's ability to provide a safe and reliable service.

4. Traffic and safety on the A170

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In their Spring 2010 Newsletter, Moorland Energy state, "Hurrell-Lane was not built, nor intended, to cope with heavy or large volumes of traffic. Therefore, to access the proposed gas processing facility, a new access road will be constructed from the A170..." This is an admission that the site will significantly increase traffic in the area. Can their figure of 120 vehicle movements a week be believed? How have they arrived at such a precise figure, yet also admit that there will be heavy or large volumes of traffic?

The proposed new junction between their new access road and the A170 is on a stretch of that road that has seen many accidents over the years, including fatalities. Turning traffic, particularly heavy vehicles, will only make this stretch of the A170 more dangerous and we will likely see an increase in accidents and fatalities as a result.

I live opposite Botterill's Garage and have to cross the A170 whenever I use a car. Traffic travelling down the hill towards the centre of the village cannot see around the bend in the road at this point. Traffic usually exceeds the speed limit here, which makes crossing the road highly dangerous. I have two very young children and I fear for their safety on this road. Any increases in traffic volume will make this road even more dangerous to cross.

Moorland Energy claim the A170 is, "considered capable of accepting such movements." I live on this road and can tell you that the A170 through the village of

Thornton le Dale is most certainly NOT capable of accepting increases in heavy plant traffic during busy periods. This is the precise reason for the traffic redistribution work arried out around the village green a few years ago. Have Moorland Energy conducted a traffic survey? They claim to have done so, but I do not believe they have and, therefore, are not qualified to make such a confident statement with PA

14 JUN 2010

5. Economic factors

As you are well aware, the village of Thornton le Dale depends very heavily upon the tourist industry. Our village is visited each year by large numbers of people eager to enjoy a tranquil and traditional North Yorkshire environment. This environment is protected from development by being in a Conservation Area. There are many guesthouses and B&Bs, village shops, cafés and pubs/ restaurants who rely upon tourism to keep them going. If tourists stop coming to our village these businesses could suffer to the point of bankruptcy.

If this plant gets approval, local businesses will not see any benefit, contrary to the opinion of Moorland Energy, who state, "The Proposed Development would have a positive socio-economic effect in terms of the creation of direct and indirect, short and long-term employment opportunities and the diversification of the local economy is a major priority when considering proposals for future development". Besides being grammatically nonsense, this sentence makes no sense in relation to the actual local economy. Site workers will not come down to the village to enjoy a cream tea, or sit by the stream eating ice cream. They will not buy chocolate boxes with pictures of Beckside Cottage on them, nor spend their lunch breaks writing postcards home. They will not use our Post Office, Butcher's shop, Pharmacist's shop, the numerous gift shops, two bakeries, Chocolate Factory or while away their break times in the Car Museum. They might buy their morning paper from Wardill's, might get a bite to eat from the Costcutter and possibly have a lunchtime pint in a pub – but that's about it.

However, when tourists come to our village and get the whiff of rotten eggs, they will most likely get straight back in their car on their coach and never come back. Who would blame them? There is absolutely no way that this plant could ever attract people to Thornton le Dale – it will only drive people away. Moorland Energy know this but they will not admit this and do not seem to care about the consequences of this.

Driving tourists away from our village would be economic suicide – as any rational person can see. The collapse of tourism in our village would see far more people out of work than jobs Moorland Energy says it will create locally. Result: net increase in rural unemployment + net decrease in locally generated income. You don't have to be an economist to work out the result of this. Rural decline, closure of local services, decrease in local investment, drop in house prices, increase in rural-to-urban

migration. This is a downward spiral of decay. This is what happened in Malton and it has taken over twenty years to see any improvement.

Moorland Energy say they will employ "up to" ten apprentices. "Up to" being a rather convenient caveat. They would not use the words "up to" if they fully intended to create ten apprenticeships, they would state it. If they do not even know how many staff they are going to need to run the plant, how can anyone trust any other figures they come out with?

In no way do their statements ring true. This plant would not provide any economic advantages for our area. All profits from the plant will go to a company based in Guildford, Surrey. None of this money will be seen in Ryedale, North Yorkshire.

NYMNIPA

6. Dangerous precedents

Finally we get to the last section of my objection. To grant this application approval would set a precedent that could have implications on a national scale.

Because this is closely linked to section 1. of this letter, I would just like to reiterate the point that, were this an application by a member of the public to build so much as a greenhouse on the Hurrell Lane site, it would be refused.

A development of the sort proposed, which would introduce toxic gas, atmospheric pollutants, light pollution, noise pollution and threat of terrorist attack into an environment where none of this previously existed is utterly nonsensical and potentially devastating for the whole district.

Increased traffic and risk of accidents / fatalities on an already very busy road will add to our region's shocking road traffic accident statistics and will create an increased burden for our emergency services.

If North Yorkshire County Council grants this planning application approval, what will be next? I would like to remind the Council of the decision by the Secretary of State to reject the planning application for a Business & Technology Park near Eden Camp in 2008. That scheme would certainly have seen more job creation and local regeneration than Moorland Energy's proposal, yet it was still rejected because of conflicts with national policy.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my objections to this proposal by Moorland Energy. I hope you will agree that there are many important issues which need to be explored rigorously.

In conclusion I would like to beg you to reject this planning application on the grounds that it is environmentally damaging and will destroy the tranquil and beautiful character our beloved village and countryside. Economically, it will bring nothing of benefit to the region and has the potential to permanently damage our tourist-based economy. Finally, the people of Thornton le Dale do not want this and, if it is granted, our children will be burdened with the effects of it for years to come.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Wilkinson





Mr M Hill, Development Control Manager North York Moors National Park The Old Vicarage Bondgate Helmsley YO62 5BP Thornton-le-Dale Nr. Pickering North Yorkshire YO18 7QP

Dear Mr Hill



Planning Application Number: NY/2010/0159/ENV - Moorland Energy Ltd

I am writing to object in the strongest terms to the above planning application.

My husband and I own and operate a tourist business from the above address, which comprises a two and a half acre site on the hillside less than a mile away from the proposed development site ('the site').

I enclose our leaflet detailing the business and would refer you to the aerial photograph at the bottom of the second page which shows that the outlook from all of our all of purpose-built tourist lodges is across the vale directly towards the site, which as indicated above is less than a mile away.

Visible impact

I have seen the artist's impressions of the proposed gas processing facility ('the facility') prepared by the applicant, which seek to suggest that it will not have any significant visual impact behind the existing railway embankment. That may arguably be the case if the whole area was flat, but it is not. The village of Thornton le Dale ('the village') is on the hillside well above the height of the site and as such the site will be visibly intrusive and will spoil the present idyllic view across the agricultural vale.

The position will be worse during the winter months, as the 'screening' trees along the embankment are deciduous and therefore the facility will be even more visible. Our business is not purely seasonal, but year round.

We have made our regular guests aware of the intended development (some of whom we understand have written direct to object to the proposed development) and a number of them have indicated that they may not book any future holidays with us if the development is allowed to go ahead.

We accept that there is an existing pipeline that runs from Whitby to Pickering, but that pipeline is wholly underground where it runs past Thornton le Dale and is therefore wholly unobtrusive and

does not in any material way have any environmentally or visibly detrimental impact on the vale and the village. That is simply not the case with the proposed development of the facility on the site.

I think that it is noteworthy that the North York Moors National Park Authority ("the Authority) do not want the facility located in the National Park and that is why the applicant proposes to build the facility in the field next to the boundary of the National Park. I am led to believe that the facility could have been more conveniently located at the Well Site in the National Park, but the Authority would not entertain this. When the NYMNP drew up the parks boundary, they wanted to extend it to the bottom of Hurrell lane, but the farmers argued for it to be kept out of the Parks because it would impose too many restrictions on their business! The Parks also state that there should be "joined up thinking" on the boundary – (NYMNP local Development framework –(3.2) states "It will also be important to ensure that there is a 'joined up' approach to planning for settlements and areas which are split by Park boundary). If the Authority could properly reject the facility for its potential adverse impact on the National Park, I do not see why the North Yorkshire County Council cannot similarly reject it in the field next to the National Park. The rural character of the Vale should remain unaltered.

Fumes

A further point of objection is the likely fumes from the site.

I note that the applicant asserts that gas emissions from the facility will be within European and National standards. I understand that gas emissions from the facility are expected to dissipate into the atmosphere.

MYMMYA

15 JUN 2010

However, the Vale of Pickering is low lying and prone to mist and fog in the mornings (or longer) during many months of the years, which means that the gas emissions are likely to be prevented from readily dissipating such that they are likely to create noxious smells for the occupants of the village and the tourists staying in the village. Such fumes would materially blight the village, which is currently one of the prettiest rural tourist attractions in North Yorkshire.

Construction

The construction of the facility on the site will itself have an adverse impact on the village and its tourist economy. The site will be open from 7.00 am to 7.00 pm seven days a week during which there will be a constant stream of noisy HGV wagons going to and from the site. Not only will there inevitably be the dust and noise, but the sight will be lit in the middle of rural fields, making it stick out like a sore thumb. Certainly my guests (and I suspect those of other similar businesses in the village) will go elsewhere if the highlight of the tranquil rural holiday accommodation they expected to have is a noisy lit-up building site in the middle of their view across the Vale.

Access

The proposed access to the site is on an unrestricted section of the A170, which is a busy road on which a number of accidents have occurred historically. To have a new road junction with wagons turning in and out of the road to the site is likely to significantly increase the risk of further road traffic accidents.

Wildlife

The applicant seeks to suggest that habitat losses arising from the construction of the facility will be restricted to areas of low conservation value, including arable land and species poor hedgerows. That is simply not the case. There are a number of badger sets in the embankments bordering the site and there is a pond in the adjacent field that has newts, ducks and other wild life, which would be adversely affected by the development of the site.

Also the surrounding land is not all arable land. As well as running our holiday business my husband and I are also specialist sheep breeders of some repute. We graze our sheep in one of the fields immediately next to the site. The construction on the site will adversely affect the disposition of our sheep and we have genuine concerns for their health if the facility is allowed to be built, particularly in light of our concern about fumes being held down by fog and mist in the Vale.

Socio-Economic Effects

The applicant correctly points out that tourism is crucial to Ryedale District Council and the Authority, but then seeks to assert that the development of the facility is likely to boost the tourist economy outside of peak seasons.

The village does have some peak periods it is a year-round tourist attraction. Relatively few properties in the village come onto the market for sale and most are purchased quickly at a premium price. The only economic benefit that the facility is likely to bring will be the modest amount to be spent by people working at the facility in the village shops.

I genuinely believe that the adverse effect the facility will have on tourist economy of the village will far outweigh any financial benefit that it may bring to the village.

In summary, I consider that the short-term financial gain that the applicant seeks to gain from the facility should not be allowed to outweigh the overwhelming adverse planning impact that the development of the facility would have on the village and the rural Vale of Pickering.

Yours Sincerely

Diane E Stenton (Partner)

Easthill Farm and Lodges



W, Ø. & A. M. Midgley Stonegarth Roxby Road Thornton-le-Dale Yorkshire YO18 77A

MR. M. How

PLANNING DEPARTMENT,

MONTH YORK MOORE NAT. PARK AUTHORITY

THE OLD VICAMAKE,

BONDGATE,

HERWICH. YO 625BP.

17. June 2010

Deer Puris

RE RANNING APPLICATION

NYM/2010/262/EJA

PROPORAL BY MOURIAND ENERCYLTS.

I am pleased to refer to my recont telephone conversation with Mr. Hill. regarding the above. Enclosed is a copy of my letter to Morth Yorkehire C.C. which I understand you will be able to controler as my letter of objection to this project. I have attempted to clearly intentify the areas of concern regarding the well head bite.

I hope the information will be of interest and assistance to you.

I spologise for the handwritten presentation.

yours faithfuly



MR. M. LONVERY
SEMOR DEV. COMMOL ORFICER
M. YORKS. COUNTY COUNCIL
LOUNTY HALL

MORTHALLERTON DL78AH.

W. B. & A. M. Midgley Stonegarth Roxby Road Thornton-le-Dale Vorkshire VO18 TTA

NYMRIPATUME 2010.

Dear Sis

RE. PLANNING APPLICATION

Nº NY/2010/0159/ENV.

PROPOSAL BY MODILAND ENERGYLTS.

above application, my reasons for this one as follow. They are on two Evels, firstly as a resident of the village since 1970. Secondly as an engineer having considerable experience of process planet alesign and construction.

les a resident I consider that the proposed plant will seriously endanger the lively hoods of meny in the area. The major industry of the area is tourism. There can be no doubt that this proposal - were it to be built, will not cause any increase in visitor numbers, the reverse is much more likely. The probability therefore is that its effects will be deleterious to the areas economy.

It is claimed that the plant will be fully screened. This is (a typical) a partial bruth. Everyone approaching the village on the A170 will have the plant in full view from Willon before they see Thornton-Le-Dale. The road is 30 m. above the plants high points and therefore the potential visitors will

book over any screening.

Poblate noise, smells and ecology problams.

The following engineering considerations are what has been discovered to date, more may be uncovered as additional information (efang) becames a vailable.

STATEMENT DIE COMPETENCE

W. B. Midaler CENC. MI MOCH F.

For Many years) worked as an independent Engineering Consultant to the Water Industry. Designing and overteeing the building of process plants (Potable Hoter and Sewage). these at least as complex as this proposed Gas Plant: Writing, reading and interpretting specifications was an essential skill.

BENERAL DRSSENATIONS

presented for planning consent sust be of clubious quality as it is based upon (we are told) data obtained from the well E.S. .

This well will only produce one third of the feed stock required for this project. It is understood that more wells are to be drilled from the well head site. These way he un productive but if not will very likely produce year with an analysis differing from ES 2. This could than require modifiations to the proposed process.

If fectively the application is based upon guesswork. It should be deferred until reliable date is available.

It is my opinion (shared by other specialists) that the Planning application is unnecessarily obtuse. Units are mixed and number contradict

insufficient consideration has been given to Various aspects of plant design. This musthave an effect on such matters as Veticle movements and area of plant coverage - especially at ile Well Head Site. The moterals handled and stored ellere ove convive, time and flammable.

SCHEDULE OF SATA LIERS IN THE SUBMISSION MAINLY EXTRACTED FROM MIEL DORUMENTS.

PEANT DESIGN From. 40 FT 310 / DAY. MEL DOCS. & VERBALAT THE EXMBITION. IT COMPRISES: 15 Mr 3 106/ SAN FROM ES1 + 25 FT 310 / SAN

FREM OTHER UN PROVEN SouRCES,

STILL TO BE DRILLED.

ELEVATION DIFFERENCE FROM WELLEAD TO PEANT 200m (O.S. MAP)

PIPE SIZES (WELLHEADTE RANT) 300 x 100 mm DIR. VARIOUS MEL DISES.

PIPELINE LENGTH B.6 KM (-n - DOCUMEAN

PIPELINE PRESSURE (LIQUIS) INCET 23TO 100 BAR.G. 58/03/MF/01

PLANT. 20 TO 100 BAR. G.

VELOCITY (LIQUIS) 100 mm. P.PE. 0-2 m/SEC Doc 53/63/105/61P.9. From Pare (LIQUIS) 100 mm. P.PE. 880 Stb/d. - - - - Proc 6.

STORAGE TANK AT PROCESS PLANT. 120-TONS. MELDRG. 18761931.

VOLUME OF LIQUOR IN 100 DIA PIRELINE 80 M3 = 80 Tans. [Anc. (AREA' LENETH)

RETENTION PERIOD OF LIGUOR IN PIPELINE. 12-5 MRS. CASE (VELOCITY XLENGTH)

THE OF LIOUOR IN PIPEPINE: - EMULSION, TOXIC, FLAMARUE, CORROSIVE. (SR. POVE)

1.0 100 mm D PIPELINE DESIGN.

This concer pelates to MEL Document Ripaline Design Data 53/03/MF/01. page 8. Note that table

2 7 JUN 2010

5. 3 appears to be incomplete.

The abscument states " Since the difference in elevation between well head and processing plant is relatively small it can be ignored for the

(1.0. Cars.) purposes of hydronlic calculations. The difference in elevation is 200m. ie 27 n to 227 m Aad. 200 m. Asaler Lead equates to 20 MAR. at the process plant. This adols to the system pressures in the pipelies. System pressure 20 to 100 gar. The increase at the lower pressure is 100% and 20% at the higher pressure. This can hardly be described as relatively small.

Table 5. 2. reeds 10 - examination as ike design bosis is suspect.

The recurity of siles pipe runst be paramount (in fact both pipalines) as foilare would cause an ecological disaster. 80 time of this lignot is not insignificant. The danger to

life are obvious.

at hangard as its film opti link is in close proximity to the pipelines, It would seem fadvisable to have some form of back-up fink between well head med a Additionally the control system would be with the tween well head and process plant control centre.

In its event of control loss there is very limited tank volume available for emergency dumping of the liquor in the 100 dia pipe. This contains 80 tons. which equales to 2/3 of the storage tank eapacity - assuming the tank was emply which is unlikely.

One wonders if this is the first plant in this area where the well head is a significant distance and height from she process plant. Many potential dangers seem to be ignored. eg. at 100 BAR a jet of liquor from the process plant vicinity could recel the A170 a Kilometre away.

between various sections. It has a tendency

The points I wish to make have been seperated into sections in an attempt to make clear my concarno. The sections tend to impact on each other as is normal with process engineering projects. I have attempted to alrem to your specialists attention these links.

I have concentrated only on the aspects of the plant which are covered by my enperience. Other specialists will, I'm sure, write and cover their concerns.

Secouse of the anomalies which have been obscovered I (and other) have attempted to obtain from Moorland Energy Ltd (MEL) basic information in an underout to ensure our objections observations are justified. When MEL. are asked for information eq. the Amalysis of the Raw Gas they refuse to provide it claiming "Commercial Sensitivity. Other queries are referred to their tret. Site. This provides no real technical information.

The claim of "Commercial Sensitivity" in this sinstance is hard by justified. They have the Monopoly for emploration in this area, have chilled and proved this well. They seem to be using "Off the Shelf" equipment, there are there fore no patents to protect. There seems to be no good reason who complete transparency can not be practised.

In an attempt to analyse the application obscuments I (and other) have used topped to got analyses which seem to indicate afaction

2.0. TARFIC & TRANSPORTATION

Without the Raw gas analysis it is not possible to make an accurate assessment of the chemicals and their quantities required for treatment nor of the by propolarly requiring removal or indeed the provided in the MEL documents has been used and is therefore identified as such a former as stated previously fiven this date may be of dubious quality so must be used with caution.

2.1 LIQUER FROM WEN HEAD TO PROCESE PLANT VIA 100mm PIE.

From 880 stel/d. (From MEL. Dozument)

Convert to Felogiuselle units: -880. 0.159 = 140 m³/DAM

140 m³/DAM = 140 TENS/DAM ... 5 x 30 TON TANKERS/DAM.

Please see appendix A for a possible vehicle movements

regime. At 5 tomkers/day it leases little capacity for other cheties.

Note: - MEL. Document "Traffic a Tansportation" page 14. talle 11.7

(ushach, typically is unhalpful)- It indicates a total of 7

vehicle movements and 5 car movements. Presumably the night shift have to walk. The new less lear little

resemblance to Mr. Engenus o statements of satisfing

numbers (in letters to the popers)

THE WILL TH

2.2. PESSIBLE LIQUON FROM V. A 100 mm PIPE

For various reasons (high pressure sign term etc) who feed into and out of the pipe will have to be very accurately controlled. An imbalance at either end would be problematical even dangerous. The above stated flow ate is very low and a velocity of only 0.2 m/sec. (See also section 4.4- "Sefety" of this submission) expectes to only a small fraction of the capacity of a 100 nm, dia. pipe. The the height olifference between the two sites the lignor will need controlling to prevent "run exwey" by gravity. In pressure

(2.8 Conr.)
de/ference in the 20-100 apr. system dires not

Lear contemplation - eg. a pipa Bak.

Should this pipe rein freely (by grevity) it would pass in escess of 0-5 m²/min. or appear. one 30 ton tanker / Rour - 24 hrs./day. The shiphtest pressure differential could drive the flow to many times the above figure. See Safety seation re. "Slam-Shelt values.

2.3. Wen HERD TRANSPORT MOVEMENTS

analysis the calculation of shemical assage and contaminants is not possible. In this project even with the analysis the calculations may be best - un-reliable as using a "Expical" analysis.

One constituent which seems thirty common is sand and this is not mentioned in the MEL. documents. Sandstone is common in this area, so Sand contamination would not be unexpected. This sand would be highly contaminated as it would be discharged with the ligar at the well had.

long somet or other particulate must be removed at the well head before it enters the 100 dia. pipe. Due to the low velocity of light flowing in the pipe the band would settle out and obstract the pipe and any velocity (eg. one of BP's current problems).

This sand (and other waste removed) weast be stored secure by and transported to a disposal site licenced for toxic materials. Any our-off or leacheaste will be hazardon's.

The MEL. observents are a little coy about the nevernant of chemicals to and from the well head. The table on page 14 Traffic & Transportation could be

(2.3 corr.)

more informative. There will be regular (it is not possible to quantify without more information) allivered

of Methand and corrosion in Libitor. There will probably be in 30 tom. tankers. The reclaimed Methand and corrosion in Libitor will be daily movements. There

appears to be no provision for storage of the reclaimed

liquors. The "unused" method will be stored in a

40m3 tank and its consider in the liter in a 25m3

tank at the well head . Please see the Safety sections regarding multiple handling of hosowelous

liquors at this court site.

The MER Transport document this ease the vehicle movements to the well head for construction of the additional features required to integrale with the process plant. There seems to be no mention of the vehicle movements associated with drilling the additional wells upon which the project will rely, if it is to be viable.

Je the un proven wells ove an essential feature of the project which is the subject of the application then logically they must the included in this application as their product is included.

2.4. TRANSPORT GENERALLY

In the MEL observent there are a number of abolively minor errors (eg describing the road junction in Eblerston as a T junction when it is a cross roads.

The serious defect is in the serial obscription of effects on troffic flow as "missioner" | Meg by ible to paint a "good picture". These tables do not consider the nuisance is the residents of the villeges and valley.

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3.0. Sewerale

In MELS document she proposed we that of sevege disposal is by septic tank. There appears to be facilities for accommodating man on site during the construction phase. Various numbers are quoted and 150 appears to be possible. 150 men would produce of the order of 33 loss of warte per day. Saptic tank treatment would be impractical for various reasons. Using a pechage trestment plant would also fail for a similar reason - there is weathere to dispose of the effluent. The land drains orround the site are very probably too small to provide sufficient dilution.

It would seem where fore that it will need tankering owen - one make 30 com tanker folay. This is the sewage plant on Merrishes road (Yorkshere NYMMPA

OPOS MUT, P.S.

Wester Permitting).

4.0. SAFWTY

4.1. GENERAL.

These notes can only scratch the surface of this aspect of the proposal's. There appear to be glaring annissions in the plant design which, to me, indicate that it has not been taken very seriously. Possibly only lipservee.

I have not altempted to consider aspects of gas safety and Dr. Pitt is much letter qualified when me to comment on all aspects of safety. My comments relate mainly to the liquid aspects of the process.

4.2. WEULFEAD HAZARDS

This site is un manned and operates continuously 24 ms/son throughout the year.

(4.2.Conn) In addition to the got which is highly explosive and at very high pressure there is the ligitor separated from the yes (item 1.0 of shis letter) shes emulsion is toxic, convive and flammable. It is transmitted to the process plant at the same high pressure as the gas. Other flumable and toxic chamicals are stored in large quantities - Methanil 40 m3 and the corrosion in Little 25 m3. No indication is given by MEL of the strage and quantities of reclaimed methanol and inhibitor which will be transported dails from the process plant: Multiple handling must raise the wilk of Occidents.

This site must be considered as a security visk and also for fire and emplosion. Remote monitoring from the process plant via the SCADA (this is an aftreviation indicating that the System has instruments, control and some automation) System. The file optio link (this means the signals may arrive a few milli seconds earlier than note / cablesit dosent guarantee more security). These hits of unidow drassing will not ensure any more tapid response to an incident because the limiting factor is road access. Butomatic fire fighting equipment could be initiated remotely Int the differing chamicals will require different treatment and this relies on the remote control System remaining connected.

Should it be a temorist attack it will all be too late unless shought and money are used. 4.3 PIPELINE SECURITY.

There appears to be provision for automatic isolation at the well head and process plant by

(4.3.Gur.)

Slam-Shut values but no means of intermediate isolation.

some EO tous of rather nasty bignor. In the event of a pipe failure (beak) the two values will close (one presences) thus preventing any more ligion entering or exiting the pipe . Mitally the contents will be at 100 RM. The pipe as a structure will have espanded scanificantly and the working pressure. On failure the bructure will commence to contract that capelling some tons of ligion from the fractive. The action of the bland shut Volues will cause surge (even at the low velocity - 80 tons takes bonne stopping!) which could exacer take plannago. Initially at 100 ber the jet of ligion could reach 1 Rm. (The

The film optic calle is layed along side the ripes and the control link could well to severed.

Should the frective occur at the lower and (the area of highest pressure) the whole contents could escape. This could allow air into the pipe - depressuresation of the contents would release methans and the hegerols increase. Intermediate volves could limit the risk parketing the control system is secure.

isoboted. There is no emergency storage at either end of the pipelines to cope with accidents.

4.4. PIPELINE MAINTENANCE

In the MEL document "Traffée and Transport" Page 16 Section 11.77. it gives the impression that by transporting the gas not liquids by pipe This will regate any associated traffice movements and infers that the underground works can be forgotten. This is a fallacy there must be regular inspections and maintanance of the pipeline Equipment. Some form of track or roadway will be necessary. Even after 5 years the H2SE are still investigating the causes of the Bunca field fire and engelosion which poor design and maintanance initiated.

The design velocity of the lignor in the 100 mm. pipe is very low, it will not scoup (claim) the pipe but it is very likely to allow deposition of the emulsion on the pipe interior. The pipe volume (80 m³) is rather to great to flush as the disposal of such quantities of contaminated water would require facilities which are not available. At 5 sees / metre the use of "rigs" to clean the pipe may not work. It would take about 14 hours to pass though the pipe. At 100+ Bat. opening the lottom valve a lit to speed it up (the pig) should not be contemplated. Among the reasons for not doing this is the risk of air ingress (see others - loge 11, 4.3).

Should Mét state that all the above matters raised are only engineering details and will be taken care of in the detailed design - 9 would agree but it seems stronge to miss so much from their application for planning consent. Whether this is by accident or design 9 do not know but the phrase "Pig in a loke springs to mind.

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I kept the information provided will convince you that this project must not be given permission to proceed.

Should you require amplification of any of the points voised I will be happy to assist in any way possible.

Your faithful

PS. Should electricity generation on the well head site he proposed, I have considerable reservations on that subject.

ATTACKED. APPENDIX A.

NYMNFA 2010 NUL 1 X

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HURRELLANE GAS PROCESSING PLANT.
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LIQUOR NEWS WERE HEAD TO PERMY & STURAGE / DISPOSITE

Usin M.E.L. BBB RALAS / D. E 140 mons/DAT. E GT/42.

TAINE STECOLE PO PLANT. = 120 TENES (4 TANKER TO EMPER)

TANKE43 = 30 TOMS. (SHES INFLOW) (Prote)

PREIBLE TANKER REGIME TO PROVIDE DANTIME MOVEWARKER.

Acromé TANKA TURN-ROUND 14A. (MAY BE 6588).

TANK INFLOW ROAR **5**5 Gran / HR.

: 1 TANKE LONG & 5 MAS.

ASSUME NO VEHICLE MOVEMENTS FROM 7 PM TO 7 PAM. 2 TANK EMPON JAM.

= 12 WES & 72 TONG.

2 TRANCES FUL OVER ENER A GRAVE 9 AM (04. 1082 109 AM) By TAM REMOVE GOTOM. LEAVE 124. \$124 Profice

- @ 9 Ana = 24 TN TAUK

TANKIN @ 9 Am

& TANK EMPTY. (2AT & GrINTZOM). LEAVER AN 10 MA

Tannen As 2 Pm

= 24 JN TANK LEAVES AT 3 PM

= TANK EMPTY (8 4 4 67 FAFE DEU)

TANICRA AT 6PM

2 /87 1 TANK

LEAVER AN 7 PM

= Zame Enver (18 + 6 File out).

: 10 MOVEMENT IN D. OVT. BETWEIN PARM & 7 PM.

010S MUR. F.S.

In Is Possible To OPERATOR DAVELUNE OMY WITH

120- PANE BUT THERE IS NO EMERGENEY

STOMBE - TO GIVEN EQUIPMENT OR VEHICLE FAILURGE.

THE CONTE FROM PLANT TO TRESING IS UNCERTAIN

IN WINTER. 3 DAYS STOREGE CAPACITY WOULD NOT

SERM EXECTIVE. EVEN IN SUMMER RAD CONSTRUCT ARE

DIFFICULT DUE TO HOUD ON TRAFFIC & THIS RAWS WILL

OPERATE AT WELLENDS & HUNDARS 24 HAJDAY 52 en / TOAR.